

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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46

ACTION EPA-04

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 SCI-06 CEQ-02 EB-11 AGR-20 COME-00

HEW-08 INT-08 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 RSR-01

/083 W

----- 035679

R 110651 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0739

INFO AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

AMCONSUL SYDNEY

UNCLAS CANBERRA 2102

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: SENV, TGEN, EIND, AS

SUBJECT: AUSTRALIAN INDUSTRIAL WATER POLLUTION

CONTROL TECHNOLOGY

REF: STATE A-1756 ( NOTAL)

1. EMBASSY OFFICER HAS DISCUSSED EPA REQUEST ( REFAIR) FOR INFORMATION AUSTRALIAN INDUSTRIAL WASTEWATER TREATMENT TECHNIQUES WITH VARIOUS SOURCES INCLUDING GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, LEADING COMPANIES AND CONSULATES MELBOURNE AND SYDNEY. AUSTRALIAN WATER AND WASTEWATER ASSOCIATION ( AWWA) IS PREPARING DETAILED REPLY WHICH WILL NOT BE READY FOR ANOTHER WEEK OR SO.

2. AS INTERIM RESPONSE, EMBASSY WISHES TO POINT OUT FOLLOWING. ALL 27 INDUSTRIES LISTED REFAIR OPERATE TO SOME EXTENT IN AUSTRALIA. HOWEVER, STATE OF WASTEWATER TREATMENT IN AUSTRALIA GENERALLY LAGS WELL BEHIND TECHNIQUES USED IN NORTH AMERICA, EUROPE AND JAPAN. LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS ON DISCHARGE OF INDUSTRIAL POLLUTANTS TYPICALLY ARE INCHOATE, WITH JURISDICTION FRAGMENTED BETWEEN SIX STATES AND COMMONWEALTH ( FOR TWO FEDERAL TERRITORIES). SOME INDUSTRIES CONTINUE TO DUMP UNTREATED DISCHARGES DIRECTLY INTO RIVERS, BAYS AND SEA.

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IN MOST INSTANCES, PLANTS EMPTY DISCHARGES INTO MUNICIPAL SEWAGE SYSTEMS FOR TREATMENT IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT PLANTS. INFORMATION ON " HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL OR ADVANCED TECHNIQUES" NOW USED HERE WILL BE FORWARDED AS IT BECOMES AVAILABLE. HOWEVER, ALL SOURCES QUERIED AGREE THAT AUSTRALIA MUCH MORE A FOLLOWER THAN A PIONEER IN THIS RAPIDLY EVOLVING TECHNOLOGY.

3. EMBASSY AIR POUCHING TO EPA SET OF PAPERS FROM AWWA' S 1973 SUMMER SCHOOL HELD IN CANBERRA LAST FEBRUARY. THESE DOCUMENTS MAINLY DEAL WITH MUNICIPAL NOT INDUSTRIAL WASTEWATER AND OTHER PROBLEMS.  
RICE

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* UNCLASSIFIED

## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:**  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Subject:** AUSTRALIAN INDUSTRIAL WATER POLLUTION CONTROL TECHNOLOGY  
**TAGS:** EIND, SENV, TGEN, AS  
**To:** EPA  
MELBOURNE  
SECSTATE WASHDC  
SYDNEY  
**Type:** TE  
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